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tific work in the painstaking carefulness of its investigations and in its accurate presentation of facts; and in the value of its interpretations it often indeed surpasses, in the opinion of the reviewer, many professedly scientific treatises.

The book covers the whole field of the relations between the races, both North and South. It takes up nearly every aspect of the problem, from negro crime to negro industry, and from racial intermixture to racial isolation and conflict. It describes conditions with a fulness and frankness which are remarkable, and, so far as I can discover, without bias or exaggeration. Of course, the book lacks statistics on many points where they might have been furnished, but as the chapters were written for a series of popular magazine articles, this defect, if it be one, has good excuse. The purpose of the book is to reproduce, mainly by a series of word pictures, the concrete social situations in which racial friction arises; and this it succeeds in doing to a wonderful degree, so that a careful reading of the book may, for a northerner, unfamiliar with the negro, be as useful as a residence in the South for several years. One wonders, indeed, how Mr. Baker caught the "atmosphere" of his problem so well, and got such insight into the psychological elements involved in race friction, without having lived for years in the social situations which he describes. If this book is a fair sample of what Mr. Baker can do in the way of objective, psychological analysis of social situations, it is certainly to be hoped that he will speedily turn his attention to other of our current social problems.

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Misery and Its Causes. "American Social Progress Series."

By EDWARD T. DEVINE, Shiff Professor of Social Economy, Columbia University. New York: Macmillan, 1909. Pp. xi+274. \$1.25.

Fourth in the "American Social Progress Series" is Professor Edward T. Devine's *Misery and Its Causes*. As the editor of the series states, this attempts to articulate a new social philosophy, pragmatic, economic, and socially adaptable to the existing conditions of American life. The volume consists of six essays and is in substance the author's lectures on the Ken-

nedy Foundation before the School of Philanthropy of New York City.

In the first chapter under the caption, "Poverty and Maladjustment," Professor Devine states his thesis which is that misery except in a few pathological cases is the result of economic maladjustment and is therefore destroyed by removing the engendering causes. In order to bring forth clearly the causes of this "surplus misery" several groups of unfortunates are examined: suicides, incarcerated criminals, prostitutes, and dependents. Naturally the maladjustment which takes form in the existence of any of these classes is not the result of a single cause. The influences which tend to the creation are many and are so closely interwoven that no one specific remedy can be suggested in any case. Preventive medicine, probation, the indeterminate sentence, more general education, and a franker public honesty, all would seem to make for the alleviation of much of this. The interesting chapter, "Out of Health," is in direct line with the propaganda of the American Medical Society and suggests many avenues of escape from the misery-producing diseases.

The essay, "Out of Work," is conservative but clear. Very interesting is the argument of Mr. Herbert S. Brown quoted in this chapter, in its possible application to secondary education. Mr. Brown holds that the natural limits to occupational mobility are vastly less confining than the usual bounds set down by custom, habit, employers, and trades-unions. He desires a more general apprenticeship and thinks that with the wider training as a basis the special skill of many trades may be had in a short time and thereby entrance to many occupations may be gotten.

The most valuable portion of the book doubtless is the report of the investigation of 5,000 dependent families in New York. The separate causes contributing to dependency were in each case observed and isolated. Not unnaturally in most families the maladjustment could not be attributed to any single factor. The presence of one efficient cause appeared to render more probable the finding of other causes. The remedies for social misery as for pathological disease must be specific. Beyond doubt, however, the author is on safe ground in urging that much of the suffering of maladjustment might be removed by measures looking to "sound heredity; protected childhood; a prolonged working age; freedom from preventable disease and professional crime; indemnity against

the economic losses occasioned by death, accident, illness, and compulsory idleness; rational education; charity; normal standards of living and social religion."

WILLIAM L. CHENERY

The Government of European Cities. By WILLIAM BENNETT MUNRO, Assistant Professor of Government in Harvard University. New York: Macmillan, 1909. Pp. ix+409. \$2.50.

This book is distinctly an addition to our textbooks on municipal administration, despite the fact that we have several very good ones already. It is a book which will prove of great benefit to the serious-minded reader interested in municipal government; but it will probably be used mostly as a reference or textbook in colleges and universities.

The preface states that "the purpose of this volume is to explain in a general way, the structure and functions of city government in three European countries. . . ." Municipal functions, however, are not adequately enough treated for a complete study of municipal administration; although a change of policy in the treatment of London—which city is given special consideration in the chapter on English cities—brings in short discussions of various municipal activities in the County of London. The author has, to be sure, in some measure prepared us for this restriction of the scope of the work by disclaiming any intention "to examine in detail the physical operation of municipal services or the minutiae of municipal administration" (Preface). As a study of the structure of municipal government in the three countries, France, Germany, and England, however, Dr. Munro's book is most excellent; and one only hopes that a companion volume on municipal activities by someone as conversant with functions as Professor Munro here shows himself to be with the structure of municipal government, may be given us before long.

Dr. Albert Shaw's two volumes, *Municipal Government in Great Britain*, and *Municipal Government in Continental Europe* were intended for the general reader, and lack something in accuracy and organization of material, as well as being too eulogistic of foreign as compared with American city administration. Professor Fairlie's *Municipal Administration* is more carefully compiled and is better adapted to the serious student. Indeed, for a book of